

**Amendment to the Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A mechanical shoe for mounting on a hoof of a sport horse, comprising:

a front central part or toe piece,

two side branches or quarters extending freely from sides of the front

5 central ~~[[port]]~~ part,

rear end portions forming heels,

holes or nail holes defined in the side branches to receive nails for attachment to the hoof,

an inner surface facing the hoof of each of the side branches including  
10 zones on the rear ends, forming flares of greater width than the side branches, ~~[[and,]]~~  
the inner surface of each of its side branches ~~defines~~ defining a zone whose interior  
edge presents a simple curved inner profile and whose width is narrower than the  
front central part or toe piece, and

an inner peripheral edge beveled by a first chamfer defined in a  
15 direction of an outer surface which defines a contact face with the ground narrower  
than the inner surface, the contact face widening in the region of the heels,

wherein the front central part or toe piece has a plurality of ridges or  
grooves forming accordion pleats disposed on the inner chamfer.

2. (Previously Presented) The shoe according to claim 1,  
wherein the rear ends or heels define thinning zones extending from outer peripheral  
edges of the heels.

3. (Currently Amended) The shoe according to the claim 1,  
wherein ~~the inner and outer peripheral edges are~~ edge is beveled by a second  
chamfer[[s]] defined in a direction of an outer ~~the inner surface[[,]] to define a contact~~  
~~face with the ground in a region of the toe piece and the two side branches is of~~  
5 ~~substantially constant width narrower than the inner surface, the contact face (H)~~  
~~widening in the region of the heels.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The shoe according to claim 3, wherein the front central part or toe piece ~~presents~~ has a plurality of ridges or grooves forming accordion pleats disposed on the ~~inner~~second chamfer.

5. (Previously Presented) The shoe according to claim 1, wherein the inner surface of each side branch is flat where the holes intended to receive the nails are defined.

6. (Previously Presented) The shoe according to claim 5, wherein on the outer face, the nail holes are defined in a groove.

7. (Previously Presented) The shoe according to claim 3, wherein on both sides of the toe piece, in zones bordering with the side branches, transverse nail holes are defined with a central portion extending transversely and a length bigger than a thickness of a blade of nail to be received, such that the received  
5 nail can be positioned in an ideal nailing zone or white line of the hoof.

8. (Previously Presented) The shoe according to claim 7, wherein each of the transverse nail holes is of truncated pyramidal form widening towards the outer surface of the toe piece.

9. (Previously Presented) The shoe according to claim 8, wherein inner surfaces of the truncated pyramidal transverse nail holes include notches, in order to allow the blocking of the received nail in a selected position in the nail hole.

10. (Currently Amended) A horseshoe comprising:  
a front central portion;  
side branch portions extending from opposite sides of the front central  
portion; [[,]]

5                    the front central portion and each side branch portion having a carved  
an inner edge [[and]] beveled by a chamfer in a direction of an outer surface which  
defines a contact face with the ground;

the contact face along the side branches being narrower than the  
contact face along the front central portion; [[.]]

10                   a plurality of ridges or grooves defined on the chamfer forming  
accordion pleats along the front central portion; and

                    heel portions extending from ends of the side branch portions, the heel  
portions being flared wider than the side branch portions.

11.            (Currently Amended) The horseshoe according to claim 10,  
wherein the front central and side branch portions have an inner hoof facing surface  
that is wider than ~~an outer surface~~ the ground contact face, the ~~inner hoof facing~~ and  
~~outer surfaces-ground contact faces~~ being connected by the inner beveled edges  
and an outer beveled edge.

12.            (Currently Amended) The horseshoe according to ~~claim 11~~  
claim 10, wherein the ~~outer-ground contact~~ face is flat along the front central portion  
and defines a groove along each side branch portions, nail holes being defined in each  
groove.

13.            (Currently Amended) The horseshoe according to ~~claim 11~~  
claim 10, wherein the ~~outer-ground contact~~ face is flat along the front central portion  
and further including transverse nail holes defined in the front central portion flat  
face, each transverse nail hole having a longer dimension extending transversely to  
5    the front central portion and a shorter dimension extending along to the front central  
portion, the shorter dimension corresponding to a width of a nail to be received in the  
transverse nail hole and the longer dimension being thicker than the nail, such that the  
nail can be positioned in a selectable location along the longer dimension.

14.            (Previously Presented) The horseshoe according to claim 13,  
wherein the transverse nail hole includes notches defined along the longer dimension.

15. (Previously Presented) The horseshoe according to claim 13, wherein the transverse nail holes have a truncated pyramidal form.

16. (Currently Amended) The horseshoe according to ~~claim 11~~ claim 10, wherein ~~[[an]] the inner of the beveled edges is chamfered and has edge~~ along the front central portion and the side branch portions is further beveled by a second chamfer in a direction of a hoof facing surface, a series of ridges or grooves being defined on the second chamfer along at least a portion of the front central portion.

17. (Previously Presented) The horseshoe according to claim 11, further including:

a portion extending from a peripheral edge of each of the heel portions, the extending portions being narrower than the heel portions.

18. (New) The horseshoe according to claim 10, wherein the ridges or grooves extend transverse to the front central portion.